

BOARD OF APPEALS

Anthony Doyle, Chairman

The Dalton Board of Appeals (also known as Zoning Board of Appeals) is created by authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A section 12. Board members are not elected; they are appointed by the Select Board for three year terms. The terms are staggered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. Alternate members are appointed annually to a one-year term.

Dalton has a three member board which requires that all favorable decisions be unanimous; otherwise, they are considered denied. In addition to the three regular members, Dalton has two alternate members who will sit on the board in place of a regular member who may be absent or has a conflict of interest with a case before the board.

Current members are:

Anthony P. Doyle	Chairman
Stephen Psutka	Vice-Chairman
Robert Betit	Clerk
Edward Gero	Alternate
Mary Lamke	Alternate T

he recording secretary is Bonnie Callaghan.

By statutory authority the board is:

To hear and decide appeals based on inability to obtain a permit or enforcement action from any administrative officer under the provision of MGLA Chapter 40A, by the regional planning agency, or by any person including an officer or board of the town aggrieved by an order or decision of the Inspector of Buildings, or other administrative official.

To hear and decide applications for special permits upon which the board is empowered to act under the by-laws.

To hear and decide petitions for variances as set forth in MGLA Chapter 40A, Section 10.

To hear and decide appeals from decisions of a zoning administrator, in accordance with MGLA Chapter 40A, Section 13.

During the 2004 calendar year the board held nine public hearings. Eight were hearings for special permits and one was a hearing for a variance.

This year saw the departure of longtime board member, Dennis Smith, who transferred out of the area for work purposes. Mary Lamke has been appointed to the board to fill a vacancy after Stephen Psutka was appointed to serve the balance of Dennis Smith's term.

The board generally meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month. Occasionally a special meeting is held to accommodate scheduling problems. Notice of all board meetings are posted in the town hall. All meetings are open to the public.